## **DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY**

NAVAL SEA SYSTEMS COMMAND 1333 ISAAC HULL AVENUE WASHINGTON NAVY YARD DC 20376-2701

> N REPLY REFER TO 4520 Ser 333/010 10 Feb 2012

Ms. Jan DeVault San Jacinto Battleground Conservancy 811 Rusk, Suite 720 Houston, TX 77002

Dear Ms. DeVault:

Thank you for your letter of January 30, 2012 to the Naval Sea Systems Command (NAVSEA) and the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD) regarding the Battleship Texas Project. I am responding on behalf of NAVSEA and TPWD. Mr. Carter Smith, the Executive Director of TPWD, has concurred with this letter.

Your letter requested "a brief outline of the NEPA/Section 106 review process that has led to the current effort to take a 'hard look' at alternative locations for the ship." For your convenience, the information responsive to your request is located at www.dryberthtexas.com and www.achp.gov/docs/CitizenGuide.pdf.

Further, your letter requests "an invitation that welcomes and encourages the addressees to submit proposals for preserving the ship at a new location." As mentioned during the first Section 106 meeting, TPWD is using its website to solicit public participation during the Section 106 consultation process. By using a public website, NAVSEA and TPWD are able to effectively and efficiently afford all interested parties an equal opportunity to learn and comment on the Section 106 consultation process. Moreover, the website has been updated to indicate that TPWD is accepting proposals for all reasonable alternatives. The criteria that should be used to identify reasonable alternatives have also been added to the website. Proposals for reasonable alternatives must be received by TPWD no later than May 31, 2012.

As a reminder, all requests for information related to the Section 106 consultation process for the Battleship Texas project should be addressed to TPWD, the lead state agency, and NAVSEA, the lead federal agency, rather than individuals that are working in a support capacity. The point of contact for TPWD is Mr. Neil Thomas at neil.thomas@tpwd.state.tx.us or

(512)389-4355. The point of contact for NAVSEA is Ms. Tuwana Cummings at tuwana.cummings@navy.mil or (202) 781-1504.

Finally, in an effort to keep all consulting parties informed throughout the consultation process, please provide electronic or hard copies of correspondence requesting new information or clarification on existing information to all identified consulting parties. If you need a complete list of identified consulting parties, please contact Mr. Thomas at the information provided above. We look forward to working with you during the Section 106 consultation process.

Sincerely,

C. R. PIETRAS

Captain, U.S. Navy

Program Manager

Navy Inactive Ships Program (PMS 333)

## Copy to:

Executive Director, Battleship TEXAS Foundation, 908 Town & County Blvd., Suite 120, Houston, TX 120

CEO, Economic Alliance Houston Port Region, 908 W. Main, La Porte, TX 77571

Executive Director, Historic Naval Ships Association, P.O. Box 401, Smithfield, VA 23431-0401

Program Manager, Port of Houston Authority, P.O. Box 2562, Houston, TX 77252-2562

President, San Jacinto Battleground Conservancy, P.O. Box 940536, Houston, TX 77094-7536

Legal Representative, San Jacinto Battleground Conservancy, P.O. Box 940537, Houston, TX 77094-7537

Director, San Jacinto Historical District, 2525

Independence Pkwy South, Deer Park, TX 77536

President, San Jacinto Museum of History Association, One Monument Circle, La Porte, TX 77571-9585

President, Sons of the Republic of Texas - San Jacinto, 3200 Southwest Freeway, #2121, Houston, TX 77027

District Director, State Representative - Ken Legler, 1109 Fairmont Parkway, Pasadena, TX 77504

Jeff Dunn, 4128 Purdue, Dallas TX 75225

John R. Ward, 3906 Cinnamon Fern Court, Houston, TX 77059

Admiral Texas Navy, Texas Navy Association, 4642 Waring Street, Houston, TX 77027

Nancy T. Burch, Daughters of the Republic of Texas, San Jacinto Chapter, 3311 Stoney Brook, Houston, TX 77063

Battleship TEXAS Foundation, 880 Wilcrest Drive, Houston, TX 77079

Board of Directors, San Jacinto Battleground Conservancy, 22419 Water Edge Lane, Katy, TX 77494

Chief of Staff, State Representative - Wayne Smith, P.O. Box 2910, Austin, TX 78768

Mark Wolff, Texas Historical Commission, P.O. Box 12276, Austin, TX 78711

Mark Denton, Texas Historical Commission, P.O. Box 12276, Austin, TX 78711

Elizabeth Butman, Texas Historical Commission, P.O. Box 12276, Austin, TX 78711

Kristen Brown, Texas Historical Commission, P.O. Box 12276, Austin, TX 78711